

HOUSE BILL 203

By Moore

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-3-206, relative to issuance of birth and death certificates by county clerks.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-3-206, is amended by deleting entirely subdivisions (7)-(9) and by substituting instead the following:

(7) Local health departments in counties with a population of two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) or greater, according to the 1970 federal census or any subsequent federal census, and county clerks in counties having a population, according to the 2000 federal census or any subsequent federal census, of not less than five hundred sixty-nine thousand eight hundred (569,800) and not more than five hundred sixty-nine thousand nine hundred (569,900), may issue copies of birth certificates, which copies shall have the force and effect of certified copies issued by the office of vital records. The local health departments and county clerks in those counties are designated as branch offices of the central office of vital records for the purpose of issuance of copies of birth certificates only, but not for the purpose of alteration of birth certificates;

(8) Local health departments and county clerks may issue copies of death certificates, which copies have the force and effect of certified copies issued by the office of vital records;

(9) County clerks shall work with the department of health to develop an initial employee training program for purposes of this act;

(10) County clerks shall purchase state security paper at actual cost from the department of health for issuing certified copies of vital records pursuant to this section;

(11) County clerks shall utilize existing T-1 lines for purposes of collecting, processing, and transmitting data; and

(12) No person shall prepare or issue any certificate that purports to be an original, certified copy, or copy of a vital record, except as authorized in this chapter or regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009, the public welfare requiring it.